

John M. and Minnie Baird House  
200 Coleridge Avenue  
Llyswn Neighborhood  
Altoona  
Blair County  
Pennsylvania

HABS No. PA-5876

HABS  
PA.  
7 ALTO.  
116 -

PHOTOGRAPHS  
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, D.C. 20013-7127

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

JOHN M. AND MINNIE BAIRD HOUSE

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Location: 200 Coleridge Avenue

Date of Erection: ca. 1907

Description: This two-and-a-half-story, asymmetrical foursquare faces Holmes Avenue. It is unusually sited, at what is now the back of a deep corner lot, yet its Coleridge Avenue facade is set back the standard 25 feet, as specified in all original Llyswen deeds. The house's chief ornaments are the various gabled dormers in the steep hipped roof and a full front porch with a hipped roof supported by paired, tapered columns on square brick piers. The porch rail has turned spindles. A modest front door is flanked by an elliptical stained-glass window with decorative molding and a large, three-sided bay window. The Coleridge Avenue entrance, the result of a remodeling, is a similar door adjoining a three-sided oriel. The roof of the added side porch is an extension of the oriel's pent roof. The house is clad in horizontal siding with narrow cornerboards.

History: This house, built for patternmaker John M. Baird and his wife, Minnie, first appeared on Logan Township tax records in 1907, with an assessed value for lot and house of \$1,000. The Bairds sold the house and the northern half of the original lot to Lena Walters in 1910 for \$3,450. Lena and husband Henry, a draftsman for the PRR, owned the house until 1923, but apparently never occupied it themselves. The next owners also used the house as a rental property until 1926, when consulting engineer Frank Householder purchased it and lived here with his wife, Jessie. They sold it in 1935 to a widow, who rented it out again. The current resident owners acquired the house in 1961.

Sources: Maps: 1909, 1920, 1932, 1951. City directories. Tax records. Deed books: 170/330, 200/6, 328/605, 328/603, 309/612, 353/640, 426/21, 788/641.

Project Information: This report was part of a larger project to document the city of Altoona, Pennsylvania. The project was undertaken by the Historic American Buildings Survey/Historic American Engineering Record (HABS/HAER), Robert Kapsch, chief, at the request of America's Industrial Heritage Project (AIHP), Randy Cooley, director. An overview of the history of the city (HABS No. PA-5784) and an overview of Llyswen (HABS No. PA-5787) provide context for these buildings as well as a comprehensive list of sources. See also additional HABS reports on buildings in the city and other neighborhoods.

This report was prepared by Kathy Edwards in the summer of 1989 under the supervision of Alison K. Hoagland, HABS historian, and Kim E. Wallace, supervisory historian. Edwards's and other project historians' work was published as Railroad City: Four Historic Neighborhoods in Altoona, Pennsylvania (Washington, D.C.: HABS/HAER, National Park Service, 1990), edited by Kim E. Wallace, supervisory historian, and Sara Amy Leach, HABS historian.